

17 January 1955

Roger Ferger, Esquire
Editor, The Cincinnati Enquirer
Cincinnati, Ohio

Mr. Ferger
Cincinnati
CCI Files *at*
HA

Dear Mr. Ferger:

The Cincinnati Enquirer in an editorial of 25 December 1954 entitled, "Clark and CIA," carried this statement:

The Associated Press tells us that persons in the CIA and others in the government resent General Clark's top-to-bottom approach, holding that the workings of this institution are so secret that even so eminent a soldier as General Clark should not penetrate the maze. We are at a loss to understand this attitude.

The article followed with some pleasant references to my past work. I wish to emphasize that I am not thin-skinned about criticism, and while I endeavor to do my work with a minimum of publicity -- not always with complete success -- I welcome constructive criticism and receive my share of it. I believe, however, that your editorial misinterpreted the Associated Press story and possibly inadvertently my own attitude. Certainly I wish to make it clear that there is no resentment felt here with regard to the work of General Clark. As the AP story indicated, I welcomed the survey at the beginning; I have cooperated with it 100% since it began; and if there are, as indicated by the AP, some "nervous" intelligence executives, I do not believe they are in this Agency. I can assure you this is no place for nervous people.

As you will undoubtedly appreciate, an intelligence organization must operate with a high degree of secrecy and security, and these requirements must and can, I believe, be reconciled to a procedure which will insure that there is proper control of funds contributed by the people and appropriated by the Congress.

This letter is not written for publication but merely to insure that you and the other senior officials of The Enquirer should know my views of the subject matter of your interesting editorial.

Faithfully yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

AWD:meo

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